

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MIKOLIC TO SPEAK AT NATIONAL SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE and the MEO/SERRC in October

Eastlake, OH. 9/19/05. Susan Mikolic, R.N., and President of Stepping Stones, will hold a workshop, entitled "**Supporting Academic Success for Children with Mental Illness**" during The 10th Annual Conference on Advancing School-Based Mental Health that will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, at the Renaissance Hotel October 27-29,2005.

The conference is entitled "**Effective School Mental Health Practice: Building a Shared Agenda with Schools, Communities and Families**" and is sponsored in partnership with IDEA Partnership of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education and the Ohio Mental Health Network for School Success.

1. Participants will learn the critical role of stress in the exacerbation of mental illness and the need to assist these children in proactively managing their daily stress and energy levels.
2. Participants will gain insight into the daily challenges these illness bring into the lives of children with mental illness and how those challenges affect their school day.

For information about the conference, log on to <http://csmha.umaryland.edu> or call toll-free 888-706-0980.

In addition, Mikolic will hold an in-depth fall series of workshops at the MEO/SERRC (Mid-Eastern Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center) located at 420 Washington Ave., Ste. 200, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, entitled: **"Mental Health Series: Biochemical and Psychological Issues in the Classroom: What are they and what can you do?"** on October 18, 25 and November 1, 15, 2005, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m (8:30 a.m. registration) - fee \$40.00, includes lunch. Call 330-929-6634 or 1-800-228-5715 for more information.

Mikolic served on the NAMI Ohio Board of Directors representing pediatric mental health issues and spearheaded the current Ohio Department of Education/Ohio Department of Mental Health's collaborative initiative to require pediatric mental health and school success coursework in the preservice curriculum requirements of teachers.

For more information, contact Susan Mikolic at 216/513-6098 or email: susan@steppingstonesmentalhealth.com.